Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Graduate Program Information
   ➢ Is a deposit required if accepted to our SLP Master’s program?
     o A $200 deposit is required to secure your seat and will be credited towards tuition for your first semester of classes. The deposit is non-refundable.
   ➢ Is the SLP Master’s Program full-time or part-time?
     o Our campus program is a two year full-time program that consists of 6 semesters (fall, spring & summer). Our online program is a 3 year part-time program consisting of 9 semesters. The program is 60-64 credits.
       ▪ We have two campus programs - Pocatello, ID and Meridian, ID. Within the CSDCAS application, you will choose your program preference(s). You must list a first choice. You may list a second choice, but it is not required. Do not list a second choice if it will not be an option for you. Listing a second choice does not increase your odds of receiving an offer.
   ➢ When does the program begin?
     o Our program begins in August (fall semester only).
   ➢ How many students apply each year?
     o We generally receive over 400 applications. More than half of those applications are for our online program.
   ➢ Are scholarships offered that cover student tuition?
     o Our department participates in the WRGP program (see information below).
     o We have some GTA positions available on each campus. We also have paid student worker positions available for graduate students. (See ‘GTA and paid student worker positions’ section below for more information and how to apply for the positions.) The application for all positions must be submitted under the “Questions” section of the CSDCAS application.
     o We occasionally have scholarship opportunities for our graduate students. We notify students if those become available. If you need assistance with funding your education, please visit the Financial Aid Office website at - https://www.isu.edu/financialaid/
   ➢ How to apply for the WRGP (Western Regional Graduate Program).
     o The WRGP program allows graduate level students who have legal resident status in one of the WICHE member states to enroll at participating institutions outside of their home state and pay instate tuition. Please go to https://www.wiche.edu/wrgp for detailed information.
     o If you are admitted to our program, and are a legal resident of one of the WRGP participating states, we will submit the required paperwork for you. You will receive a tuition credit approximately 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the fall semester.
     o All online students pay in-state tuition. In addition to tuition, all online students are assessed online professional fees, which are currently an additional $495 per credit.
   ➢ What is the cost of attending our Program?
     o Please visit our website for this information. The link is https://www.isu.edu/slp/program-costs/
     o Additional information can also be found on ISU’s website at https://www.isu.edu/cost/

3) GRE scores
   ➢ What are the GRE score requirements?
     o Your GRE scores must have been taken within the last 5 years. All applicants are required to take the GRE – no exceptions. At least one subsection score (Quantitative, Verbal, or Analytical) from the GRE must be at or above the 40th percentile. However, successful applicants to our graduate program usually have more than one subsection score at or above the 40th percentile. If any subsection percentile score(s) are single digits, we highly recommend you retake the GRE.
   ➢ Where do I send my GRE scores?
     o CSDCAS only. Please use code 4545 to have your GRE scores sent directly to CSDCAS.
   ➢ When do I need to have my GRE scores submitted by?
     o Our application deadline is February 1, 2021. GRE scores must be received by the deadline.
   ➢ Do we accept the MAT?
     o No
2) Transcripts

- Where do I send transcripts?
  - Both ISU Graduate School and CSDCAS
    - ISU Graduate School
      921 S. 8th Ave Mail Stop 8075
      Pocatello, ID 83209-8075
    - CSDCAS Transcript Processing Center
      PO Box 9113
      Watertown, MA 02471

- Can I send copies of my transcripts?
  - CSDCAS accepts official transcripts only. ISU will accept either official or unofficial transcripts. Official transcripts will be required by ISU, if you are offered a seat in our program. Official transcripts must come directly from your institution. You cannot send transcripts yourself, even if sealed and marked ‘official’.

- Can transcripts be submitted electronically?
  - ISU graduate school will accept electronic transcripts at gradadmissions@isu.edu. Transcripts must be in pdf form and include the institutions full name along with your full name.
  - For detailed information on how to submit your official transcripts to CSDCAS, please go to https://help.liaisonedu.com/CSDCAS_Applicant_Help_Center

- If I attended Idaho State University, do I need to send ISU transcripts to the Graduate School at ISU? No

4) Letters of Recommendation

- How many letters of recommendation do I need to submit?
  - Submit 3 letters, with at least 2 from college level Instructors, through CSDCAS only. Please do not send letters directly to our department. Carefully follow the instructions for submitting letters of recommendation located on the CSDCAS website: https://help.liaisonedu.com/CSDCAS_Applicant_Help_Center
  - Letters of evaluation must be completed via the online evaluator portal through CSDCAS and must be completed BY THE EVALUATOR THEMSELVES and written at the time of your request. It is highly recommended that you contact the reference in person prior to submitting their information to CSDCAS. Once you have chosen your references, be certain to inform them of the process and that they will be filling out the reference electronically. Obtain their preferred e-mail address and make sure they are monitoring their e-mail inbox for your reference request e-mail.

- Whom should I ask for a recommendation?
  - The recommendations may be from a college or university instructor/faculty member, employer, supervisor, or volunteer work supervisor, etc. Letters should not be from family members or friends. Seek recommendations from those who can address your potential for success in the graduate program, academically and/or clinically. We highly recommend two of the three letters be from SLP academic faculty members.

5) Personal Essay & CV/Resume

- Where do I submit my personal essay and cv/resume?
  - Program Materials/Documents section of the CSDCAS application (essay maximum is 500 words)

- What should I include in my personal essay?
  - Choose either A. or B. and answer in 400 words or less
    A. Describe a time you encountered an obstacle and the steps you took to overcome the challenge. What did you learn from that experience?
    B. Describe an accomplishment you feel proud of and how you went about achieving it. What helped you prepare for this challenge? Did you encounter any obstacles in the process?

6) GTA and paid student worker positions (Optional)

- We have some GTA positions available on each campus. We also have paid student worker positions available. To apply for positions, you must complete the Optional ‘Program Materials/Questions’ section of the CSDCAS application. These positions are offered to 1st and 2nd year students attending our campus program. They are not available for students in our online program.

7) Pre-Requisites

- I have not taken all the required pre-requisite courses, where do I list those that I plan on taking?
  - When entering your transcripts in CSDCAS, you can select ‘in-progress’ or ‘planned’ for those pre-requisites that have not yet been completed, are in-progress, and/or those that you plan on taking. There is also a place for you to list those same pre-requisites in the ‘Program Materials/Questions’ section.

- If I haven’t finished all the pre-requisites, will my application still be considered?
  - You must complete the majority of the required pre-requisite coursework by the summer prior to the start of the Master’s program, which is approximately the 3rd full week in August. You may be able to incorporate 1 or 2 missing pre-requisite courses into the Master’s program, depending on the pre-requisite(s) that you are missing. It may extend the length of the Master’s program. If you are admitted to our program and are notified of missing pre-requisites, we highly recommend you take them the summer prior to beginning our program.
8) GPA
   ➢ Is there a minimum GPA requirement?
     o To be considered for our SLP Master’s program, you must have a minimum 3.0 GPA on your most recent 60 credit hours. The majority of the applicants currently offered a seat in our program have at least a 3.4 GPA or higher.
   ➢ How is my GPA calculated?
     o The Graduate School calculates your most recent 60 credit hours of coursework, as does CSDCAS. We also carefully consider your CSD coursework and undergrad GPA.

9) Application Deadline
   ➢ February 1, 2021
     o Your completed CSDCAS application must be submitted with fees paid by February 1, 2021, Midnight - Eastern Standard Time. ALL application materials, including Letters of Recommendation, GRE scores, and transcripts (including fall/winter 2020 grades if applicable), MUST be received by the February 1st deadline. Processing time can take up to 4 weeks, so please plan accordingly.
     o Your completed ISU Graduate School application must be submitted with fees paid by February 1, 2021, Midnight, Mountain Standard Time.
     o Transcripts must be submitted and received by both CSDCAS and the Graduate School before you will be considered for a seat in our program.

10) Apply
    ➢ Where do I go to apply to the SLP Master’s Program?
      o ISU Graduate School - https://www.isu.edu/graduate/
      o CSDCAS - https://csdcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login